

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a vinyl chloride polymer, comprising ~~polymerizing~~ conducting polymerization of vinyl chloride or of a monomer mixture comprised of mainly vinyl chloride in an aqueous medium in a polymerization vessel fitted with a reflux condenser, said process comprising:

initiating the polymerization of the monomers;

starting the operation of said reflux condenser to remove heat generated by the polymerization,

conducting recovery of unreacted monomers from said polymerization vessel after the completion of said polymerization, and

starting to add the continuous addition of

(A) an anti-foam agent, and

(B) a partially saponified polyvinyl alcohol with an average degree of polymerization of 100 to 500 and a saponification degree of 75 to 85 mole % to the polymerization ~~system~~ mixture in said polymerization vessel during ~~polymerization and during~~ the operation of said reflux condenser, and

continuing the addition of (A) and (B) stated above until the completion of the recovery of unreacted monomers ~~from said polymerization vessel.~~

Claim 2 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said anti-foaming agent of the component (A) is a silicone anti-foaming agent, a polyalkylene glycol-based anti-foaming agent, or an amide anti-foaming agent.

Claim 3 (Original): The process according to claim 2, wherein said anti-foaming agent of the component (A) is a silicone anti-foaming agent.

Claim 4 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol of the component (B) has an average degree of polymerization of 260 to 320 and a saponification degree of 78 to 82 mole %.

Claim 5 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said anti-foaming agent of the component (A) is added in an amount of 10 to 500 ppm on a weight basis in terms of solid matter relative to the entire monomers.

Claim 6 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol of the component (B) is added in an amount of 100 to 1500 ppm on a weight basis relative to the entire monomers.

Claim 7 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said polymerization is carried out as suspension polymerization or emulsion polymerization.

Claim 8 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said monomer mixture is comprised of vinyl chloride and other vinyl monomer copolymerizable with vinyl chloride.

Claim 9 (Original): The process according to claim 8, wherein said other vinyl monomer is selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters, acrylic esters, methacrylic esters, olefins, vinyl ethers, maleic anhydride, acrylonitrile, styrene, and vinylidene chloride.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 4 wherein said polyvinylalcohol of the component (B) is added in an amount of 100 to 1500 ppm on a weight basis relative to the entire monomers and said component (A) is a silicone anti-foaming agent added in an amount of 10-500 ppm on a weight basis in terms of solid matter relative to the entire monomers.